

Application #09/993,899
Amendment dated December 27, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new paragraphs after the paragraph [0006], which ends with the words "particularly acute in this area". (Note: this paragraph number is based on the published application: 2002/0120842 A1).

Summary of the Invention

[0006.1] One aspect of the invention relates to method for accessing cryptographic material. Accessing cryptographic material in accordance with one embodiment of the invention includes creating cryptographic material, by a first Cryptographic-related application programming interface ("API") associated with a first cryptographic standard, in response to a request by a first application compatible with the first Cryptographic-related API; and creating a supplemental aspect of the cryptographic material by a supplemental method for the first cryptographic API and the supplemental aspect includes information for rendering the cryptographic material compatible with a second Cryptographic-related API associated with a second cryptographic standard so that the cryptographic material is accessible for a second application by the second Cryptographic-related API.

[0006.2] Another aspect of the invention relates to computer program product for accessing cryptographic material. A computer program product for accessing cryptographic material in accordance with one

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embodiment of the invention includes: a) first instructions for creating cryptographic material, by a first Cryptographic-related application programming interface ("API") associated with a first cryptographic standard, in response to a request by a first application compatible with the first Cryptographic-related API; and b) second instructions for creating a supplemental aspect of the cryptographic material for the first cryptographic API, and the supplemental aspect includes information for rendering the cryptographic material compatible with a second Cryptographic-related API associated with a second cryptographic standard so the cryptographic material is accessible for a second application by the second Cryptographic-related API.

[0006.3] Another aspect of the invention relates to apparatus for accessing cryptographic material. An apparatus for accessing cryptographic material in accordance with one embodiment of the invention includes a processor; and a memory coupled to the processor for storing instructions for controlling the processor. The processor is operative with the instructions to perform the steps of: a) creating cryptographic material, by a first Cryptographic-related application programming interface ("API") associated with a first cryptographic standard, in response to a request by a first application compatible with the first Cryptographic-related API; and b) creating a supplemental aspect of the cryptographic material by a supplemental method for the first cryptographic API, and the supplemental aspect includes information for

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rendering the cryptographic material compatible with a second
Cryptographic-related API associated with a second cryptographic
standard so that the cryptographic material is accessible for a second
application by the second Cryptographic-related API.

[0006.4] Other aspects and advantages of the present invention will
become apparent from the following detailed description, taken in
conjunction with the accompanying drawing, illustrating by way of
example the principles of the invention.